MAILING CERTIFICATE

where the certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first-class mail service on the date listed below, and is addressed to Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

Dec. 8, 2003

Kav Bulen

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Peter H. Kay

Application No.:

10/617,060

Filed:

July 8, 2003

For:

USE OF FLUORESCENT MOLECULAR BEACONS IN THE DETECTION OF

METHYLATED NUCLEIC ACIDS

Examiner:

Art Unit:

1645

Docket No.:

47675-52

Date:

December 3, 2003

Mail Stop Missing Parts Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted in response to the *Notice to Comply with* Requirements for Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequence and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures mailed by the Patent and Trademark Office on October 17, 2003 (copy enclosed) for the continuation application referenced above. Kindly amend the specification as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 14, please replace the first paragraph, extending from line 1 to line 11 with the following: